

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1 - 10. **(Canceled)**

11. **(Currently amended)** A method for posttreatment of the exhaust gas of an internal combustion engine, in which nitric oxides contained in the exhaust gas are selectively catalytically reduced, the method comprising,

delivering a first auxiliary agent from a supply thereof to the exhaust gas,

subjecting a portion of the first auxiliary agent at least intermittently to a chemical conversion into a second auxiliary agent,

storing the second auxiliary agent in an intermediate reservoir (4), and

at least intermittently, delivering the second auxiliary agent ~~can be delivered~~ to the exhaust gas parallel to or in alternation with the first auxiliary agent.

12. **(Previously presented)** The method of claim 11, wherein, in a so-called normal operating mode of the engine, a delivery of the first auxiliary agent exclusively is effected, and wherein at selected time intervals outside the normal operating mode, in particular during a cold-starting phase of the engine, a delivery of the second auxiliary agent exclusively is effected.

13. **(Previously presented)** The method of claim 12, wherein the chemical conversion is effected during the normal operating mode.

14. **(Previously presented)** The method of claim 11, wherein the chemical conversion is performed only until such time as the intermediate reservoir is full.

15. **(Previously presented)** The method of claim 12, wherein the chemical conversion is performed only until such time as the intermediate reservoir is full.

16. **(Previously presented)** The method of claim 13, wherein the chemical conversion is performed only until such time as the intermediate reservoir is full.

17. **(Currently amended)** The method of claim 11, wherein the volume of the intermediate reservoir is dimensioned such that a quantity of second auxiliary agent that meets the demand for the second auxiliary agent during a cold-starting phase of the engine is ~~can be~~ stored.

18. **(Currently amended)** The method of claim 12, wherein the volume of the intermediate reservoir is dimensioned such that a quantity of second auxiliary agent that meets the demand for the second auxiliary agent during a cold-starting phase of the engine is ~~can be~~ stored.

19. **(Currently amended)** The method of claim 13, wherein the volume of the intermediate reservoir is dimensioned such that a quantity of second auxiliary agent that meets the demand for the second auxiliary agent during a cold-starting phase of the engine is ~~can be~~ stored.

20. **(Currently amended)** The method of claim 14, wherein the volume of the intermediate reservoir is dimensioned such that a quantity of second auxiliary agent that meets the demand for the second auxiliary agent during a cold-starting phase of the engine ~~is can be~~ stored.

21. **(Previously presented)** The method of claim 11, wherein a substance that releases ammonia at sufficiently high temperatures is used as the first auxiliary agent.

22. **(Previously presented)** The method of claim 12, wherein a substance that releases ammonia at sufficiently high temperatures is used as the first auxiliary agent.

23. **(Previously presented)** The method of claim 13, wherein a substance that releases ammonia at sufficiently high temperatures is used as the first auxiliary agent.

24. **(Previously presented)** The method of claim 11, wherein the second auxiliary agent is ammonia.

25. **(Previously presented)** The method of claim 12, wherein the second auxiliary agent is ammonia.

26. **(Previously presented)** The method of claim 13, wherein the second auxiliary agent is ammonia.

27. **(Previously presented)** The method of claim 11, wherein a zeolite body or a salt that forms an ammonia complex is used as the intermediate reservoir.

28. **(Previously presented)** The method of claim 12, wherein a zeolite body or a salt that forms an ammonia complex is used as the intermediate reservoir.

29. **(Currently amended)** The method of claim 11, wherein the intermediate reservoir, for being heated or for expelling the second auxiliary agent, is ~~can be~~ intermittently subjected to exhaust gas.

30. **(Currently amended)** An apparatus for posttreatment of the exhaust gas of an internal combustion engine, with which nitric oxides contained in the exhaust gas is ~~can be~~ selectively catalytically reduced, and a first auxiliary agent kept on hand is ~~can be~~ delivered to the exhaust gas, characterized in that means (3, 6, 9) are provided for at least intermittently subjecting a portion of the first auxiliary agent to a chemical conversion into a second auxiliary agent, and that an intermediate reservoir (4) is provided for storing the second auxiliary agent, so that at least intermittently, the second auxiliary agent is ~~can be~~ delivered to the exhaust gas parallel to or in alternation with the first auxiliary agent.